Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

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EO 11652: GDS

SUBJ: DEFMIN DOUKARA REACTS TO MALI'S UNGA SPEECH

1. DURING CALL OCTOBER 3 BY COUNTRY DEVELOPMENT OFFICER (CDO) AND VISITING AID OFFICIAL ON MINISTER OF DEFENSE DOULARA, TO DISCUSS RURAL DEVELOPMENT, DOUKARA SAID AGAIN HOW PLEASED HE WAS WITH U.S. AID PROGRAM . CDO REPLIED THAT HE APPRECIATED THE MINISTER'S KIND WORDS BUY HAD DIFFICULTY IN UNDERSTANDING FOREIGN MINISTER CISSOKHO'S SPEECH AT THIS YEAR'S SPECIAL SESSION OF THE UNGA. CDO THEN HANDED OVER TRANSCRIPT WHICH DOUKARA READ UNTIL HE CAME TO OBJECTIONABLE SECTIONS WHICH REFERRED TO "MERCANTILISM AND CHARITY" OF INDUSTRIALIZED NATIONS. DOUKARA WAS VISIBLY TAKEN ABACK. HE HASTENED TO ASSURE CDO THAT CRITICISM OF INDUSTRIAL NATIONS IN NO WAY REFERRED TO THE UNITED STATES. IT DID APPLY TO OTHERS, HOWEVER, BOTH CAPITALIST AND COMMUNIST, BUT NOT TO THE UNITED STATES. CDO THANKED THE MINISTER FOR THIS EXPLANATION AND SAID THAT IF GOM WAS NOT SATISFIED WITH ANY ASPECT OF U.S. AID PROGRAM TO MALI, CDO WAS ALWAYS AVAILABLE TO DISCUSS PROBLEMS. DOUKARA SAID THAT HAD BEEN PRACTICE TO DATE AND WOULD CONTINUE. HE ASKED CDO TO REPORT TO WASHINGTON THAT HIS GOVERNMENT DID NOT MEAN TO REFER TO U.S. IN CONFIDENTIAL

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CISSOKHO'S SPEECH. DOUKARA KEPT COPY OF SPEECH AND

WAS READING IT WHEN HIS VISITORS LEFT.

2. COMMENT: THIS OBVIOUS LACK OF COORDINATION BETWEEN MALIAN MINISTERS OF DEFENSE AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS IS NOT UNUSUAL. WE WILL CONTINUE TO PROVIDE INFORMATION TO DOUKARA, AND OTHERS, TO MAKE CLEAR THAT USG DOES INDEED TAKE SERIOUSLY STATEMENTS BY MALIAN GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS. MCGUIRE

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